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on their side!

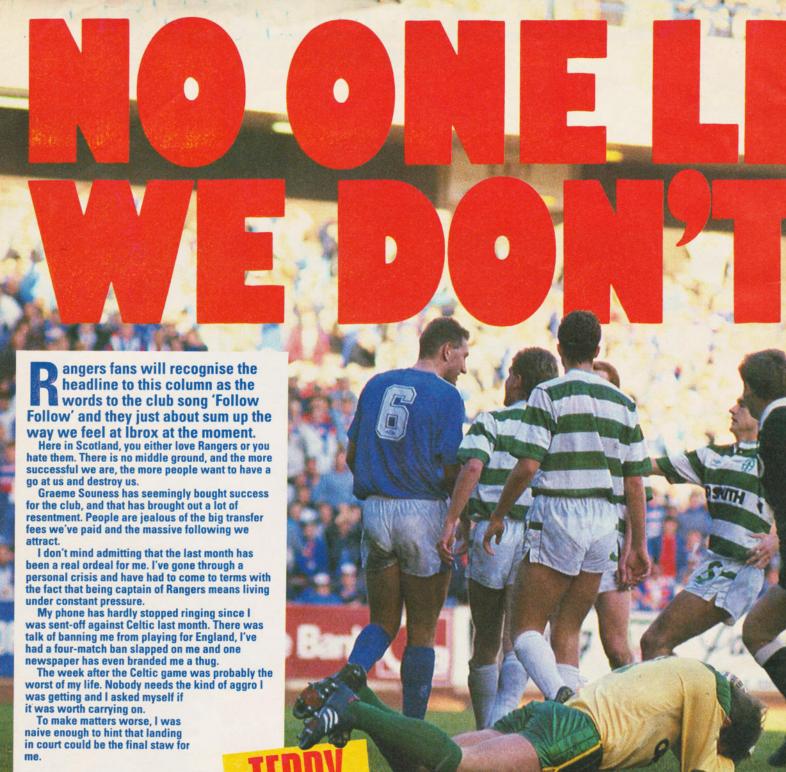


Sondico



Eldon Way, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8NJ





#### Rumour

And now that fear has become a reality and I've been charged with conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace, the rumour that I'm set to quit Rangers is spreading like wildfire.

I cannot discuss the alleged incidents which have landed me in the dock, but I can tell you that I will not be leaving lbrox.

My name has been linked very strongly with a £1 million move to Spurs, but as far as I'm concerned it's pure speculation designed to sell more newspapers.

I'm very flattered that I am apparently so highly rated by Terry Venables, but there is no real reason why I want to leave

And Graeme Souness has made it clear that there's no way he'll

sell me, so that is the end of the

Column

I've had a real heart to heart talk with my parents about my situation. I've spoken to my friends and had a lot of feedback from our fans. They've convinced me I should carry on at Rangers and lead the club all the way to the top.

Now I can't wait to get my ban over and get on with proving all my critics wrong.

That's just what Ian Durrant has had to do in the last few weeks and the lad has been brilliant.

There's nothing to him, but the way he got stuck in against Gornik Zabrze and in the Skol Cup Final against Aberdeen was a real eye-opener.

lan is very much a Glaswegian. He likes to go out on the town on Saturday nights, but because he's a Rangers player people were constantly baiting him and he had to keep backing out of trouble or do what kids do in these situations

In the end, the pressure of playing for Rangers became too much for him and he announced he wanted to leave.

But the Boss came down very heavily on him and really let him know where his loyalties lay. lan has responded magnificently on the park and will be a Scotland international for many years to come.

#### Pressure

I live with a different kind of pressure. As captain of one of the biggest clubs in the world, the demands on my time are amazing. I thought myself and my family had come to terms with it last year, but it just seems to escalate.

I'm out every day after training, opening a supermarket,



#### HAVE a score to settle with Manchester United ... and Old Trafford on Sunday would be an ideal place to do it.

In all the times I played there for Watford I was never on the winning side and can only remember drawing once, so I haven't collected too many fond memories of the place.

But I believe my new Liverpool team-mates can help me put that appalling record straight when we visit the famous stadium for Sunday's TV spectacular.

You only have to look at the fixture – Manchester United v Liverpool – to see what the game means and I feel it will be one of our biggest of the season, second only to the Merseyside derbies.

The fact the game will be broadcast live on television adds even more spice to what promises to be an exceptional occasion. As far as excitement and entertainment value is concerned, Old Trafford will be the place to he

It will be our third live-screen appearance this season so we're quite accustomed to performing under the TV microscope, and United should be no strangers to the situation either, having played West Ham at Upton Park a little more than a fortnight ago.

It gave me my first real look at them this season and for the opening 45 minutes I was very

The way they knocked the ball around made it look like a training session, but the game became too easy for them and they relaxed

enough to allow West Ham back into it. I don't suppose they'll be so generous on Sunday.

United have quality players right through the ranks, from Paul McGrath at the back to Bryan Robson in midfield and Jesper Olsen up front. But the man who

United CATA

ami

could stand between me and personal glory is Viv Anderson.

Life's never easy when you're up against Viv because you can often spend a lot of time in the left-back position covering HIS forward runs. On Sunday I aim to be running at Viv more than he runs at me.

I've always had a lot of respect for my international team-mate and, being the first black player to play for England, he was a source of inspiration to me, although at the time he made history I was still at school and not even

considering a career in football.
In fact I was all set to return to
Jamaica with my parents before
Watford stepped in to offer me a
chance. Thank heavens they did,
because now I'm playing for the
best team in the country and
loving every minute of it.

Surprisingly I haven't felt under

predicts a change of fortune in Sunday's Big Box Game

Shoot's new star writer

pressure at Anfield because I've been fortunate to step into a tremendous side playing with supreme confidence. Everything clicked almost from the first whistle and we've continued in the same vein ever since.

It's still early days yet but I've been very pleased with my performances, particularly against Derby and QPR. The match against Rangers was vital because they were top at the time, and it was great to be involved in a comprehensive 4-0 win. To score two goals in the process was a bonus.

The second goal gave me particular pleasure and several people have remarked that it reminded them of the goal I scored for England in Brazil three

years ago. A touch of the old Maracana magic, you might say.

But don't get the impression I'm getting carried away with all the praise and publicity I've been attracting because of performances like that.

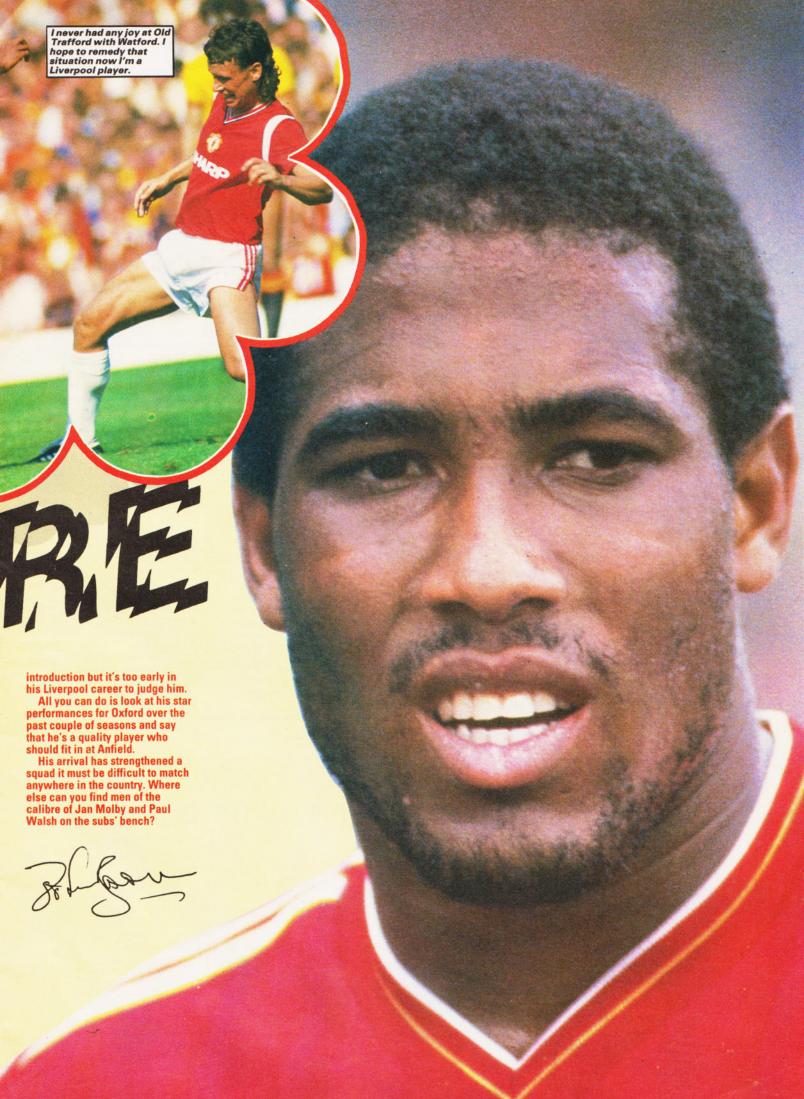
It's all very flattering but, quite frankly, it's like water off a duck's back to me.

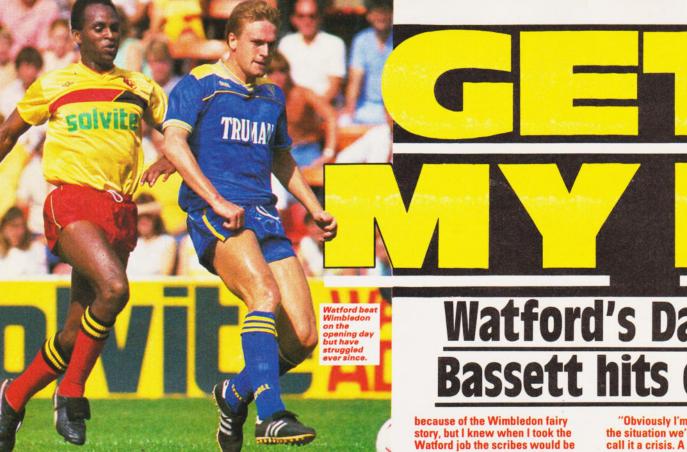
I take very little notice of it because it can lead to complacency – and when that happens you're in trouble.

Similarly with the team itself, we won't allow ourselves to be lulled into the belief that we're going to walk the Championship as some people seem to think – even if we have won ten of our opening 11 games.

Let's just say we're very happy with the way the season has started and we're looking to maintain our impressive run of form – after all it would be very difficult to better it.

The great thing is that we've managed to hit top form with new boys like myself supposedly still settling in. The latest signing, Ray Houghton, has also made a good





NDER fire boss Dave Bassett has hit back at the critics who seem hell bent on destroying the reputation of one of the game's best young

His success in guiding Wimbledon to the top - rivalled in recent years only by that of his Watford predecessor Graham Taylor - shot him to

fame, if not fortune.

But since his move up-market to Vicarage Road the tide has turned and the knives are out for the crafty cockney.

A string of disastrous results, dramatic changes to the team Taylor built and bitter disappointment in the transfer market have all combined to make him public enemy number one.

But Bassett remains unmoved. "People had built me up

# Watford's Dave **Bassett hits out**

after me if we didn't get off to a good start – and they haven't disappointed me," he says.

But I have enough faith in my own ability not to let it worry me and I won't crack. I've had bad times before and bounced back and I'll do the same this time.

#### Danger

Just two wins in the first 12 League games – one against his old club on the opening day - have left Watford flirting with danger at the foot of the First Division amid cries of a crisis.

Still 'Harry' Bassett refuses to panic. "Crisis, what crisis?" is the reaction from the wise-cracking chief. This time, however, he's not joking.

"Obviously I'm not happy with the situation we're in, but don't call it a crisis. A crisis is when people are losing their lives we're only losing football

But don't get the impression that the effervescent boss has lost his fizz.

He's simply being realistic about a situation which has placed his reputation - and possibly his job - on the line.

People flaunt volatile words in football as though it's a matter of life and death and while it's obviously important that Watford are successful, there's no point in getting hysterical at this stage of the season.

'I'm not Paul Daniels and can't wave a magic wand and make Watford go to the top of the table overnight. It's going to take time and I want the fans to be patient

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OT even the pools' experts from Cup sponsors Littlewoods could have forecast some of the amazing upsets which have turned this year's competition into the Cup of shocks.

We're only just past the Third Round stage yet already more than half of the First Division's clubs have bitten the dust.

**Tottenham, Nottingham Forest** and Norwich all fell to Second

The Shakers, the Third Division club, inspired by old campaigners Sammy McIlroy and Noel Brotherston, halted the Rangers' rollercoaster and earned themselves a money-spinning Fourth Round tie at home to Manchester United.

Bury are guaranteed a massive rake-off following a venue switch from Gigg Lane to Old Trafford, but despite the police-enforced move experienced midfielder Sammy McIlroy, a former United favourite, insists: "This was the draw we all

#### FOURTH ROUND

"You can't ask for much more than Manchester United and I'm sure the Bury fans are as delighted as I am. It will be a great occasion and my old team will certainly know they've been in a game - just ask QPR how we can play."

Two other former Manchester United men are also looking forward to the Fourth round tie with relish. They are back-fromthe-brink defender Mark Higgins and Bury physio Wilf McGuinness, the ex-Old Trafford chief.

**Another former First Division** star up against his old club is Brian Talbot, whose inspiring

performance in Stoke's Third Round win over Norwich set up an emotional return to Highbury.

The two-time Wembley winner will be looking to add a League Cup winners' medal to the two he collected in the FA Cup with Ipswich and Fourth Round opponents Arsenal.

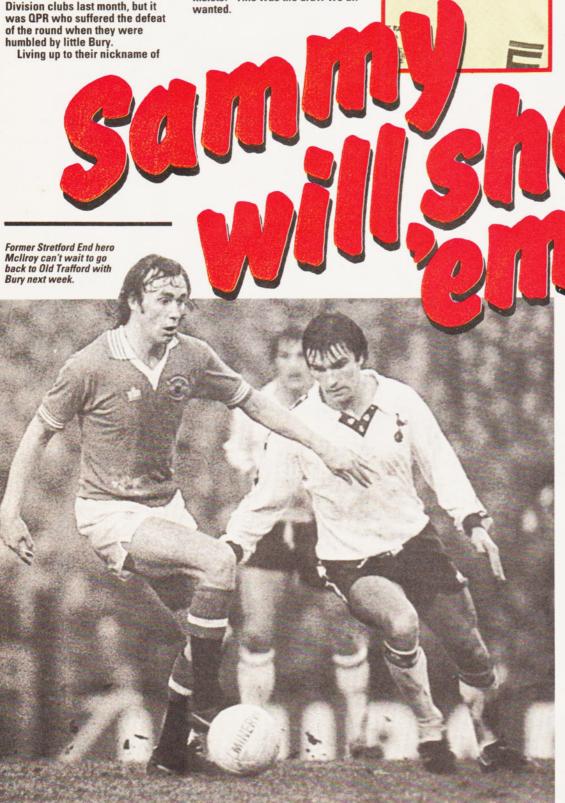
The odds, however, must be firmly stacked against Stoke, with The Gunners hopeful of retaining the Cup they won last March.

With so many big clubs having fallen by the wayside, George Graham's men must fancy their chances, although Everton boss Colin Harvey will also be keen to emulate his Arsenal counterpart's achievement of lifting the Littlewoods Cup in his first season in charge.

The men from Goodison were worthy Third Round winners at Liverpool and can now look forward to a home tie against Oldham.

#### FOURTH ROUND DRAW

**Bury v Manchester United Everton v Oldham** Man City v Watford **Ipswich v Luton** Arsenal v Stoke Aston Villa v Sheff Wed Oxford v Wimbledon Reading v Bradford





Id Trafford will be no place for the faint hearted this Sunday as Manchester United go all out to inflict Liverpool's first League defeat of the season.

The tackling will be fierce and the commitment total. I just hope the ref treats us as men and lets the game flow, because no matter how hard the challenges go in, I'm sure there won't be anything nasty.

**Everyone at Old Trafford is** really psyched up for the game we now regard as our derby match following Manchester City's relegation to the Second Division.

And whether I'm piling into a midfield confrontation with Steve McMahon or shackling the goal threat of Peter Beardsley, I'm determined to come out on top.

#### **Bruises**

I've taken my fair share of whacks in recent weeks, but I'll put up with a few more bumps and bruises if we can win on Sunday.

United have taken a lot of stick in recent weeks and some of it

has been deserved.

We've dropped too many silly points, and with Liverpool in such superb form that's something we can't afford if we are to remain serious about winning the Championship.

I was as disappointed as anyone when Kenny Dalglish's men beat Everton in their recent Merseyside collision at Anfield.

Like the rest of the First Division I was banking on the Blues to repeat their Littlewoods Cup victory of a few days earlier and bring Liverpool back down to earth.

They have made such an impressive start to the season that people are now talking in terms of them not losing a single League game all season.

But that is ridiculous. I don't believe such a feat is possible in modern day football.

And I saw enough in those two games against Everton last month to convince me that Liverpool can be stopped

The one thing I can guarantee is that Sunday's game will be played at breathtaking speed. It will look quick on the telly, but out on the pitch it will be even faster.

A lot of idiots tell me that we should slow these big match confrontations down. But they should try it!

Anyone who attempts to put his foot on the ball on Sunday will be swallowed alive. Try to stroll and the whole game will just pass you

John Barnes, Peter Beardsley and John Aldridge have enjoyed all the headlines so far, but it will Anyone who tries to put his foot on the ball on Sunday will be swallowed alive.

be battlers like McMahon, Craig Johnston and Ronnie Whelan who will be Liverpool's key players this Sunday.

And I have to say that Alan Hansen was just fantastic in that League win over Everton. He held his back four together magnificently in the face of severe pressure.

#### Switched

Three days later it will be a totally different proposition when we take on Third Division Bury in the Fourth Round of the Littlewoods Cup.

We should have been playing them at Gigg Lane, but the police decided their ground can't cope with a big crowd and have ordered the tie to be switched to Old Trafford.

But although we have home advantage, Bury are no mugs and we must respect them for what they can do.

They know they cannot afford to stand off and let us play, so they'll come at us right from the kick-off and it will be very difficult until we get the first goal.

I know that with so many of the big boys already out of the Littlewoods Cup, people are now talking of United going all the way to Wembley.

But although I expect us to beat Bury, I also expect Everton and Arsenal to make it to the Quarter-Finals, and an away draw against either of them would be a real

As I said a few weeks ago, United's fans are now so obsessed with us winning the League that it's almost as if they're not that interested in the Cup competitions.

But that's not how we feel in the dressing-room. We want the Championship above all else, but if we get the chance to go to Wembley as well, we're certainly not going to turn it down.



# BARCLAYS LEAGUE



#### Tuesday, November 3 LITTLEWOODS CUP Third Round replay

WATFORD (1)4 Morris, Porter, Hodges, Allen	<b>SWINDON (1)2</b> Quinn, Foley 13,378
Divisio	on One
ADCEMAL (2)	CHEISEA (1)

2,	Nevin	40,23
g)		
n:	delen Tone	

III I WU
BARNSLEY (0) 0 6,622
PLYMOUTH (0) 1 Brimacombe 7,424
BRADFORD (0) 0 15,443
HUDDERSFLD (0) 0 9,984
BOURNEMTH (0) 2
O'Driscoll, Shearer 5,374 A.VILLA (1)

#### **Division Three**

BRISTOL C (1)
Shutt 2 3,140
MANSFIELD (0) 0
2,240
WIGAN (1)
GRIMRSY (0)
3,49
BRENTFORD (1) 1 Thorne 4,529
NOTTS COUNTY (1) 1
Green (og) 4,157
SOUTHEND (0) O
15,754
ALDERSHOT (0) 0
4,186

#### **Division Four**

CAMBRIDGE (0) O	HEREFORD (1)	
	Phillips	2,25
CARLISLE (1) 1	ORIENT (1)	
Hetherington	Shinners 2	2 13
Hetherington DARLINGTON (0) 1	CREWE (0)	-,
Worthington	0112112 107	1.72
HALIFAX (1)2	DUDNIEV (1)	1,12
Matirax (1)2	DUNNELET (1)	2 44
Martin, Matthews NEWPORT (0)0	Taylor	3,41
NEWPORT (0)	BOLTON (1)	
	Elliott	
ROCHDALE (1) 1	COLCHESTER (2)	4
Simmonds	Wilkins 2. Chatterto	n
	(pen), Hinshelwood	1 39
SCUNTHORPE (1) 3	WREXHAM (1)	,,,,,
Flounders 2, Reeves	Buxton	
STOCKPORT (0) 1		
Birch		1,40
SWANSEA (0) 1		
Allon	Bull, Gallacher	5,29
TORQUAY (1) 1	TRANMERE (0)	
Dobson		2,15
		75.7

#### SCOTTISH FIRST

PARTICK	(1) 1	KILMARNOCK	(0)
---------	-------	------------	-----

Wednesday, November 4 **EUROPEAN CUP** Second Round, second-leg

GORNIK ZA	B (0)1	RANGERS (1)	
Orzeszek	/an	McCoist (pen)	20,00

#### **CUP WINNERS' CUP** Second Round, second-leg

ST MIRREN	(0)0	MECHELEN Ohana 2	(1)2 14,000

#### **UEFA CUP** Second Round, second-leg

FEYENOORD (0) 1 Hoekstra	ABERDEEN (	0)
VITKOVICE (0) 1	DUNDEE UTE	goals)
Vik (ag	Dostal (og) g: 3-2)	30,000

#### LITTLEWOODS CUP Third Round Replays

LEICESTER (2) 2 Newell 2 OLDHAM (0) 4	Saunders, Shelton 10,476
Keeley, Williams,	Snodin, Taylor 7,058
Irwin, Wright	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
(90 n	nin: 2-2)
READING (1) 1 Peters	PETERBORO (0) 0 6,030
Divisio	n One

PORTSMOUTH (0) O	TOTTENHAM (0) O 15,302
WIMBLEDON (0) 1 Fairweather	LIVERPOOL (0)
Divisio	n Turo

MAN CITY (0) 1	MIDDLESBRO (1) 1
Hinchcliffe	Glover 18.434
WEST BROM (2) 4	SHEFF UTD (0) 0
Gray, Goodman,	8,072
Williamson, Kuhl (og)	

#### **Division Three**

BRIGHTON (1)2	DONCASTER (0) O
Nelson 2	7,142
BRISTOL R (0) 1	PRESTON (1)2
Hibbitt	Ellis, Jemson 2,804
CHESTER (0) 1	PORT VALE (0) O
Rimmer, (pen)	2,789
NORTHAMPTON (D) O	YORK (0) O
	4,950

#### **Division Four**

SCARBOROUGH (1) 1 Mell	CARDIFF (1) Wimbleton	2,59

#### Friday, November 6 **BARCLAYS LEAGUE Division Four**

HALIFAX (1) 1	COLCHESTER (1) 2
Galloway	Wilkins, 1,432
	Chatterton (pen)
STOCKPORT (1) 2	
Entwistle, Robinson	Loram 1,697
TRANMERE (0) 1	WREXHAM (0) O
Martindale	3,271

#### Saturday, November 7

#### **DIVISION ONE**

CHARLTON (2)	NORWICH (0)0
LUTON (1)	NEWCASTLE (0) 0 7,638
OXFORD (0) 1 Saunders 81 (pen)	COVENTRY (0)0
Q.P.R. (0) O	12,101
WEST HAM (0) O	SHEFF WED (1) 1 Bradshaw 21 16,277
WIMBLEDON (1)2 Fairweather 27,	

DIVISION TWO		
ASTON VILLA (1) 1	MILLWALL (2)2	
Keown 26	Cascarino 6, 13,255 Briley 19	
BARNSLEY (2) 3	BRADFORD (0) O	
Gray 15,	11,569	
Lowndes 37, Wylde 77	01001444 (0)	
Reid 24	OLDHAM (0) 0 7,519	
BOURNEMOUTH (2) 2	C DALACE (3) 3	
O'Driscoll 1,	Thomas 27, 9,083	
Williams 12	Bright 35, 44	
Williams 42,	BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 7.901	
Overson 66 (og)	7,301	
IPSWICH (0)2	READING (1) 1	
Lowe 56, 79	Gordon 11,508 SHREWSBURY (0) 1	
Stiles 4, Taylor 60	Narbett 65 13,760	
LEICESTER (0) 3	SWINDON (1)2	
Ramsey 82,	Barnes 8, Quinn 65 8,346	
Walsh 89, Venus 89		
	HUDDERSFIELD (0)1	
McNab 13, Stewart 30, 67, 81,	May 89 (pen) 19,583	
Adcock 34, 53, 68,		
White 41, 85, 90	***********	
CUPPE UTD (O)	BRIDDI FORDO (O)	

#### **DIVISION THREE**

ALDERSHOT (1)2 Langley 30, Berry 90	Galliers 68 4 324
BLACKPOOL (1)	ROTHERHAM (0) O
Deary 39, Taylor 70,	3,447
Madden 89	5,447
PRIETOL POV (2)	CHESTERFIELD (0) O
Purnell 31 (pen),	2.633
Meacham 37	2,033
CHESTER (0) 1	WALCALL (O) 4
CHESTER (U)	
Lightfoot 85 DONCASTER (1) 1	Jones 48 (pen) 3,269
DONCASTER (1) 1	PORT VALE (0) 1
Dean 33	Sproson 90 1,365 NORTHAMPTON (0) O
FULHAM (0) O	NORTHAMPTON (0) O
	6,717
GILLINGHAM (0)1	BRIGHTON (0) 1
Greenall 65 (pen)	Dublin 69 6,437
MANSFIELD (0) O	Dublin 69 6,437 PRESTON (0) 0
	3.631
NOTTS CO (0)3	BRENTFORD (0)O
Withe 46.	5.634
McParland 83, 90	
SUNDERLAND (0) 1	GRIMSBY (1) 1
	North 1 18,197
Armstrong 47 WIGAN (0)1	SOUTHEND (0) 0
Cook 47	3.081
Cook 47 YORK (0) 1	BURY (1)
Helliwell 48	Robinson 27 2 641

BOLTON (0) 1 Thomas 69	LEYTON ORIENT (0) 0 5,189
CARDIFF (1)	EXETER (1)
Gilligan 4, 83, Boyle 77 CARLISLE (2)	Rowbotham 15, 3,474 Batty 62
CARLISLE (2)	NEWPORT (0) 1
Cooke 11, Hetherington 17, Saunders 48	Preece 84 1,766
HEREFORD (0) 1	CREWE (0) 1
Rodgerson 89	CREWE (0) 1 Murphy 83 2,272
PETERBORO (0)O	HARTLEPOOL (0) 1
	Toman 57 3.200
ROCHDALE (0)2	SWANSEA (0)
Simmonds 88.	Pascoe 66, 86, 1,243
Gavin 89	McCarthy 73
SCUNTHORPE (0) O	
WOLVES (0)3	BURNLEY (0) 0
Downing 73,	10,002
Gallagher 79,	
Vaughan 87	
reading of	

#### FINE FARE LEAGUE

#### Saturday, November 7

#### **SCOTTISH Premier**

DUNDEE (1)	
Wright 64	burgess or (pen) 4,32
DUNFERMLINE (2) 2	
McCathie 11, Watson 20	6,50
HEARTS (1) 1 Colgubour 40	
MORTON (0)O	
MURTUN (U)	4,50
MOTHERWELL (0) 2	
Cowan 47, Boyd 52	Ferguson 85 2,92
RANGERS (1) 1	HIBERNIAN (0)
Fleck 21	37,51

#### SCOTTISH DIV. ONE

DUMBARTON (1)
AIRDRIE (0)
FORFAR (0)
CLYDE (2)
KILMARNOCK (0)
EAST FIFE (0)

#### SCOTTISH DIV. TWO

	ALLOA (0)	OUEFNS PK (2)
	ARBROATH (2)3	
	BERWICK (0) 0	BRECHIN (2)
-	EAST STIRLING (0) 2	ALBION R (0)
	MONTROSE (1)2	
1	ST JOHNSTONE (0) O	
1	STIRLING ALB (0) O	STENHSMUIR (2) 3

#### Sunday, November 8 **Division Four**

DARLINGTON (0) O	CAMB UTD Butler	(0) <b>1</b> 2,463
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#### DIVISION ONE Away

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	12	6	0	0	19	2	4	2	0	13	5	32
Arsenal	14	6	0	1	18	4	4	2	1	8	4	32
Q.R.P.	14	5	2	0	11	3	4	1	2	8	8	30
Nottm F	13	3	2	1	10	4	5	1	1	14	7	27
Man Utd	14	4	3	0	12	6	2	4	1	12	9	25
Chelsea	15	6	1	0	15	7	2	0	6	10	17	25
Everton	14	5	1	1	14	4	1	3	3	7	7	22
Tottenham	15	5	0	2	12	7	1	3	4	4	9	21
Oxford	14	5	0	2	15	10	1	2	4	4	11	20
Wimbledon	14	2	4	1	11	7	3	0	4	7	9	19
Sthampton	14	2	2	2	7	8	2	3	3	12	14	17
Derby	13	2	2	3	5	5	2	2	2	6	9	16
Coventry	14	2	1	4	7	14	3	0	4	7	8	16
Luton	14	3	3	2	12	7	1	0	5	6	12	15
West Ham	14	1	4	3	6	9	2	2	2	8	8	15
Sheff Wed	15	2	1	4	8	12	2	2	4	7	15	15
Portsmouth	14	3	3	2	11	11	0	2	4	3	16	14
Newcastle	13	1	1	4	5	10	2	3	2	10	13	13
Norwich	15	2	2	3	8	9	1	0	7	2	12	11
Watford	13	1	2	3	3	7	1	1	5	3	9	9
Charlton	14	2	1	5	6	11	0	2	4	6	13	9

#### DIVISION TWO

			HO	me					MY	vay		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bradford	18	7	1	1	20	7	4	3	2	10	10	37
Middlesbro	18	6	2	1	18	6	4	2	3	11	8	34
Hull	18	6	4	0	16	8	3	3	2	12	9	34
Ipswich	18	8	1	0	17	4	1	4	4	6	10	32
Aston Villa	19	2	5	3	11	11	6	2	1	15	6	31
C Palace	17	6	1	1	20	9	3	2	4	17	17	30
Birmingham	18	4	4	1	10	9	4	1	4	11	14	29
Millwall	17	5	1	1	17	8	3	2	5	9	15	27
Man City	17	5	2	2	28	11	2	3	3	11	15	26
Barnsley	18	5	1	3	20	13	2	3	4	5	9	25
Swindon	16	4	2	2	15	7	3	1	4	13	15	24
Blackburn	17	4	3	2	11	8	2	3	3	10	12	24
Leeds	18	5	2	2	10	8	0	6	3	8	14	23
Stoke	18	5	3	1	11	5	1	2	6	3	17	23
Leicester	17	5 3	2	3	17	9	1	1	5	10	15	21
Bournemth	18		3	3	16	12	2	2	5	8	15	20
Plymouth	18	4	3	2	22	14	1	2	6	8	20	20
West Brom	18	5	1	3	16	9	1	1	7	8	22	20
Sheff Utd	18	5 3 3 2	3	4	11	13	2	1	5	8	15	19
Oldham	16	3	3	2	10	10	1	1	6	4	14	16
Reading	16	2	1	4	10	10	1	3	5	7	18	13
Shrewsbury	17	1	3	3	7	8	1	4	5	6	16	13
Huddersfld	17	1	3	4	6	12	0	2	7	11	33	8

#### **DIVISION THREE**

Sunderland	18	5	3	1	25	10	5	2	2	12	7	35
Walsall	18	4	3	2	11	8	5	4	0	16	6	34
Notts Co	18	5	4	1	22	11	4	2	2	11	10	33
Northampton	18	5	2	1	13	4	3	5	2	17	11	31
Brighton	18	6	2	1	14	7	2	5	2	12	11	31
Fulham	17	4	2	3	16	8	5	1	2	12	7	30
Wigan	17	3	3	2	12	11	5	2	2	15	14	29
Bury	18	4	4	1	16	10	3	2	4	8	10	27
Gillingham	18	5	3	2	28	6	1	5	2	11	13	26
Chester	17	4	1	4	10	13	3	4	1	12	11	26
Brentford	18	3	4	2	8	7	4	1	4	12	16	26
Blackpool	17	5	1	3	15	9	2	3	3	10	10	25
Port Vale	17	6	3	0	16	6	1	1	6	7	11	25
Bristol City	17	4	2	1	15	11	3	2	5	13	18	25
Bristol Rov	18	6	1	3	21	13	0	4	4	9	16	23
Mansfield	17	4	3	3	10	7	2	1	4	9	12	22
Rotherham	18	3	3	2	14	9	1	5	4	8	16	20
Aldershot	16	5	1	1	18	13	1	1	7	10	22	20
Chesterfield	18	4	1	3	10	10	2	0	8	3	24	19
Grimsby	18	1	1	6	7	15	3	3	4	10	11	16
Preston	18	1	4	4	7	11	2	3	4	6	14	16
*Doncaster	17	4	1	5	10	15	0	1	6	3	17	12
Southend	18	1	4	3	10	13	1	1	8	12	36	11
York	18	1	4	4	12	18	n	2	7	7	17	9

#### \*2pts deducted for failing to meet a fixture

#### **DIVISION FOUR** Home Away PWDLFAWDLFAPts

		WW		- 6-		~	**	_	- Ban			10
Wolves	18	6	1	2	20	7	4	3	2	14	11	34
Colchester	18	4	1	3	10	9	6	2	2	16	9	33
Bolton	17	7	2	1	16	4	2	2	3	8	10	31
Scarboro	18	6	3	0	19	6	3	1	5	8	13	31
Cardiff	18	7	2	1	18	10	2	2	4	7	11	31
Leyton O	18	6	0	2	27	9	2	6	2	13	15	30
Torquay	18	5	1	3	17	8	4	2	3	10	9	30
Scunthorpe	18	6	3	1	16	7	2	3	3	14	16	30
Hartlepool	18	5		1	15	11	3	2	4	10	10	29
Burnley	18	4	333	2	9	10	4	ñ	5	10	14	27
Darlington	17	3	3	2	9	10	4	2	3	18	15	26
Halifax	18	6	2	2	18	11	1	2	5	6	13	25
Peterboro	17	5	2	3	13	10	2	2	3	A	9	25
	18	4	A	0	14	6	1	5	4	12	17	24
Crewe	17	3	2	3	13	8	A	1	Ä	8	10	24
		3	4	3	15	13	2	1	5	10	13	23
Swansea	18	4	1	4			3	!	0	7	8	23
Hereford	18	3 3	4	4	8	12	4		5			
Exeter	17	3	3	2	13	1	3	1	5	13	15	22
Stockport	18	3	0	7	8	13	3	2	3	8	10	20
Carlisle	18	5	1	3	21	14	1	1	1	9	24	20
Wrexham	18	4	2	2	12	8	1	1	8	5	19	18
*Tranmere	17	3	0	5	10	8	1	2	6	5	15	12
Newport	18	2	1	4	7	7	1	1	9	8	29	11
Rochdale	18	1	3	5	12	19	1	2	6	4	25	11



# RAY CREATES A RECORD



Ray Houghton earned an instant rapport with the Liverpools fans when scoring his first goal for the club since his £800,000 move from Oxford, at Wimbledon.

Within a minute of coming on as a sub, his second game for Liverpool, Ray grabbed the goal which set-up a club record start to a season of 10 wins and two draws from 12 League games.



Britain's sole European hopes rest firmly with Rangers following a disappointing night for Scottish soccer.

St Mirren, Aberdeen and Dundee United were all knocked out by foreign opposition, but Ally McCoist ensured Rangers' path to the European Cup Quarter-Finals with a vital strike from the penalty spot to earn his side a 1–1 draw away to Poles Gornik Zabrze, for a 4–2 aggregate win.

# United snubbed

PARCELONA misfit Mark Hughes has revealed the real reason why he couldn't return to his old club Manchester United this season.

After putting pen to paper on a lucrative loan deal with West German Champions Bayern Munich, the Welsh international confessed: "I couldn't have lived with being branded a failure.

"If I'd gone back to United now the stick would have been unbearable. Can you imagine going to Anfield and having 20,000 fans screaming (Barrelong reject' at you?

'Barcelona reject' at you?
''Hopefully if I can be a
success over the next six
months or so in Germany I
won't have to put up with

Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson seemed favourite to rescue Hughes from his Barcelona nightmare, but the player chose to join Bayern on loan until the end of the season.

At one time he confesses he would have "crawled back to Old Trafford" but now he admits: "My move on loan to Bayern is the best thing that could have happened to me right now.

"If I can do well I will come back to England next year a winner.

"The most important thing was for me to get away from Barcelona and start playing first team football again."



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#### Shoot View

## Don't nick'em

THE Strathclyde police over-reacted when they accused Terry Butcher, Chris Woods, **Graham Roberts and Frank** McAvennie of conduct likely to provoke a breach of the peace.

Charges were brought after incidents in the Old Firm clash between Celtic and Rangers on October 17th when Woods, **Butcher and McAvennie were** sent-off.

The police have set a controversial precedent. Where do they stop now?

If a player scores a goal, forgets himself in the excitement and gives a Harvey Smith salute to the rival fans. do the police have the power to arrest him during or after the game?

And what happens if a policeman on duty at a ground spots a player committing an offence on the blind side of the referee? Can he march on to the pitch and apprehend the

We doubt police would have taken action if any of the Rangers players had been involved in a similar incident against Morton or Motherwell.

It's a ludicrous situation. The maximum sentence for this offence is three months jail or a £2,000 fine.

It's unlikely to come to such a position, but imagine the outcry if the four men do end up behind bars.

The Scottish FA have been dealing with players found guilty of offences within the game for decades.

Allow the clubs and the football authorities to get on with their job of punishing players who bring the game into disrepute.

Of course, if this action hammers home the warning that no player is above the law even on the pitch, a valuable lesson will have been learned.

But hopefully there will be no need for further police hysteria.

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We're not talking about the game in Italy, Spain, South America, West Germany or any other country in the world, but the recent Liverpool v Everton derby.

In terms of sheer entertainment you can't beat British football.

# Peter Stewart, Shoot! Commonwealth House, 1-19 New Oxford St., London WC1A 1NG.

# Follow the Falcons.

HOOT VIEW 24th October issue, which condemned certain aspects of junior soccer, certainly sparked a tremendous response from

Many agreed that some teams are more intent on kicking each other than playing football.

Richard Miller from Plymouth has quit as manager of his Under-14 side because several of his players have received nasty injuries this season.

Eddie Homes from Bradford is so sickened by the actions of some parents during Under-10 matches that he has banned his young son from playing.

School master Arnold Jones, from Kirkby on Merseyside, was appalled when the boys in his team asked how best to appeal to referees.

Of course, there were also many managers who objected to the editorial.

For example, Mr. M. J. Barnes, who runs a club called Stafford Falcons in the Rugeley and District Boys Football League, writes: "None of the managers in my League would suggest anything like you have printed.

#### Competitive

"We are not professionals, but a group of keen volunteers who have a good understanding of boy's football.

"We do not encourage competitive soccer for seven to eight year olds, but the thrill and enjoyment we get out of running teams from 9-12 is something you can only appreciate if you have ever run a team."

Our view was not directed at coaches and managers like Mr. Barnes, but at those people who are in charge of youngsters and know very little about the game or running teams.

I have in fact been involved with junior football for eight years and have often been disgusted with the attitudes of managers who are more interested in winning pots than teaching youngsters the basics.

That's why I believe the FA should take a close look at the way some Leagues are operating and ban those clubs who are not projecting the right image of the game.

# Nice one,

After scoring inc West Brom, Tony Morley presented the match ball to a special school for handicapped children at Sutton Coldfield.

I have no use for the ball, but I am sure the school will be able to put it to good use," says

# **Family**

T'S not too late to join the fun and meet the stars on a SHOOT Family Fun Day.

Matches involved are: Everton v West Ham on 14th Nov; Spurs v Liverpool on 28th Nov; Man United v Oxford on 12th Dec; Arsenal v Everton on 19th Dec; Liverpool v Arsenal 16th Jan, 1988

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#### PANINI SWOP SHOP

lison Thomson, 135 A Wadham Gardens, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 OBT has Football '87 stickers to swop .. Adrienne Hopkins, 35 Oatlands Road, Oxford OX2 OEU has Football '86 stickers to exchange.

22-years-old and lives at ul Poniatowskiego 18/17. 36-600 Watozi, Poland. She is a Gornik Zabrze correspond and exchange programmes and souvenirs with English readers ...

English readers ...
Clare Sawyer, 25
Rivington, Claremont
Road, Salford,
Manchester M6 80H, is a
Manchester United and
John Sivebaek fan. She
wants in hear from St Etienne fans, the club John now plays for.

#### Ask the Expert

Paul Rider from Colchester in Essex, asks: "I know Nottingham Forest's Neil Webb became England's 1,000th full cap when he came on as substitute against West

Germany recently.
"But can you tell me how many players only made one appearance?'

The total to date, Paul, is a massive 303. If you want that soccer query answered write to Ask The Expert, c/o SHOOT.

#### **ED'S TEASER**

erry Venables is the new manager of Tottenham. Can you name the two other London clubs he was manager of before he took over at Barcelona?

£5 to the first five correct entries opened after Friday 20th November.

Answer to Ed's Teaser 31st October issue was Southampton. Fivers on the way to: Daniel Howard, Merseyside; Terry Asser, Enfield; John Maloney, Peckham; Ross Slorach, Edinburgh: Paul McLauchlan, Pembrokeshire.



#### Fergie's Fear

few weeks ago SHOOT expressed concern about the present transfer market which is in danger of exploding into another crazy spiral, with fees going out

Now Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson complains: "It's gone bananas – completely mad. Even United don't have the resources to control the market. "It looks as though we are heading back to the bad old days when the game almost went broke because of stupid transfers and ridiculous wages."

Fergie wants success for United, but is determined not to bankrupt the club doing it.

If other top managers adopt the same attitude the game will quickly return to sanity.

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ADIDAS			Junior 2-5			_	23.33
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# Holland with Celtic's youth team." f you thought they broke the However, Celtic liked what they mould when they made had seen and waited patiently to

rugged Irish star Kevin Moran, then Celtic full-back Anton Rogan will make you think again.

Bravery and injury have gone hand in hand with the Manchester United defender but the Parkhead youngster has already shown he has the guts to push himself to the

He overcame two broken legs before he had reached his 19th birthday and now the Belfast boy throws himself into tackles bigger men would wince at.

Maybe the answer lies in the fact that, like Moran, 21-year-old Rogan has already had the toughest apprenticeship sport can provide - Gaelic football.

"It's a great game, and it toughens you up," he says. "We never played soccer at school. It was always Gaelic football.

A familiar characteristic of the left-back's style is the way he can send a perfect hanging punt kick from defence and chase after it as if he were at Croke Park.

**But it's Celtic Park where** Rogan's heart is and after a long fight to get there he's determined

I've been connected with Celtic since I was 18 but twice when they looked like signing me I broke my leg.

'The first time, when I was 18, I broke it playing for my Irish club, Distillery. The next season I broke it again during a trial game in

snap up Rogan from Distillery for £20,000 in April, 1986.

"I was really surprised I broke through so quickly. Left-back seems to have been a problem spot for Celtic.

"I thought I was just going to fill in, but the Boss must have been impressed. Players such as Tommy Burns and Danny McGrain were really great in helping me.'

Rogan has made his Parkhead breakthrough just as his friend from Belfast, 'keeper Allen McKnight, has forced his way into the limelight.

#### Sensitive

"We played together at Distillery and came over to Glasgow around the same time. Now we share the same house.

Rogan doesn't bat an eyelid at the fact he's gone against established codes back home in religiously sensitive Belfast by being a Catholic whose best mate, McKnight, is a Protestant, and sharing digs with him.

'We go to each other's houses in Belfast and neither has ever had any trouble.

Celtic are beginning to get support from all over the community there.

Maybe the Parkhead pair are pointing the way to the new Northern Ireland on and off the football park.













# for Spurs?

S tand by for changes at Spurs when TERRY VENABLES takes charge on December 1. The new White Hart Lane boss

The new White Hart Lane boss will have about £2 million for new signings and don't be surprised if his first move is for QPR skipper TERRY FENWICK.

It was Venables who took

It was Venables who took Fenwick to Loftus Road from Crystal Palace six years ago and he also wanted him at Barcelona.

Fenwick is a confirmed Venables fan and has been stalling over the new contract offered him by Rangers all season.

Second Division promotion chasers Middlesbrough are checking on the Mansfield defender TONY LOWERY.



verton are showing a keen interest in St. Patrick's Athletic full-back CURTIS FLEMING. Curtis has earned a reputation as the new PAUL McGRATH in Ireland.

What's new?



#### **A Yank at Bournemouth**

BRENT GOULET, the first American to play in the Football League, turned down a small fortune in order to sign for Bournemouth.

The 23-year-old striker from Tacoma reveals: "The indoor game is really booming in the States, and it's possible to earn \$100,000 a year.

"But it has always been my dream to play in England and I wouldn't swap my one-year contract at Bournemouth for anything."



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# What a lot of Bull!

O ptimistic Wolves have slapped a £1 million tag on striker STEVE BULL.

Liverpool and Manchester
United have both checked on the
22-year-old hit man this season,
but chairman DICK HOMDEN
says: "He is going nowhere
unless somebody offers us a
seven-figure fee."

# YOU ARE THE REF



The star stiker has to dash off immediately after the game and won't be available for the post match Press Conference. Do you:

(a) Get a phone number where he can be contacted.

(b) Take down his quotes at half-time and sell them exclusively to The Sun, or (C) Award an indirect free-kick and caution the player for ungentlemanly conduct?

ANSWER ON PAGE 47

# **Super**

PAUL COOPER's move from lpswich to Leicester has clearly not affected his remarkable ability to save penalites.

penalites.
The veteran goalkeeper has
now saved four of the six spot
kicks he's faced for his new
club and reckons to have kep
out 54 throughout his career.
"I'd rather be remembered f
my all-round ability than as
spot kick expert," he says.

# Mark Irwin knows

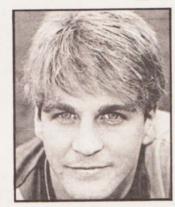
# Ward out in Hammers Swan

Struggling West Ham are ready to sign Bradford's highly rated JOHN HENDRIE in an exchange deal with MARK WARD.

Hammers boss JOHN
LYALL is determined to find a
partner for TONY COTTEE and
I understand he's been in
touch with Bradford about
24-year-old Hendrie.

City manager TERRY
DOLAN has previously
knocked down any interest in
Hendrie (right) and midfield
man STUART McCALL, who
has just signed a new
contract at the Valley Parade.

But he will certainly be tempted by the offer of Ward, who has lost his way at Upton Park following a sensational first year at the club.



It seems that Liverpoolborn Ward is keen on a return to the North and would be ready to consider an offer from a Bradford team currently clear at the top of the Second Division.

# anchester United centre-half GRAEME HOGG is set to join former boss RON ATKINSON at West Bromwich Albion.

Hogg, who rejected a move to Manchester City earlier this season, will sign for Albion in a £180,000 deal at the end of his month's loan at The Hawthorns.

# Stapleton to quit

FRANK STAPLETON may have to quit the game following a back operation.

The 31-year-old Republic of Ireland striker (right) only signed for Ajax from Manchester United in the summer but was looking for a return to England.

But the recent op has changed all that and it looks as though he'll now have to hang up his boots.



#### **Best Ireland**

W ould Irish soccer fans like to see Northern Ireland and the Republic join forces? Apparently not. On a recent show on Ulster TV, both GEORGE BEST and DEREK DOUGAN spoke in favour of an all-Ireland team, but the viewers voted overwhelmingly against the merger.



Newcastle full-back BRIAN TINNION (below) is hoping that MIRANDINHA doesn't quite understand what he's saying, but every time the two meet, the little Brazilian covers his face and shouts ... "ugly .... ugly!"



#### Red faced Duxbury

IKE DUXBURY is Manchester
United's man for all positions, but
he wasn't too happy when asked to
play at left-back at the start of the

season.

Explains Mike: "I felt embarrassed to be in the company of ARTHUR ALBISTON because he had done so much for the club and I had taken his

place.
"At the end of the day I am a
professional and will play where I am
selected, but I'm glad to be back in
midfield, which is my favourite position
anyway."





#### **EVERTON V. WEST HAM**

THE Champions will expect three points against a West Ham side lacking confidence and firepower.

There's also an Everton hoodoo on The Hammers. Their last League success at Goodison was a 2-1 win back in November, 1972.

The return of Gary Stevens after injury has made a great deal of difference to Everton. So has the midfield authority of Peter Reid (right).

How West Ham could do with a player of Reid's influence at the moment.

Playing full-back Ray Stewart alongside Alvin Martin has given the Hammers defence more stability.

But until manager John Lyall buys a big, strong partner for Tony Cottee West Ham are going to struggle. Little winger Mark Ward began his career as an Everton apprentice and usually looks forward to a return to Goodison.

But I can't forecast much joy for him this time.



# PHONE

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#### BEATBROOKING

FIRST DIVISION	ON	TREV'S TIP	YOUR
Coventry	v Wimbledon	1	
Everton	v West Ham	1	
Man. United	v Liverpool	X	
(Live TV playing			
Newcastle	v Derby	1	
Norwich	v Arsenal	2	
Nottm. Forest	v Portsmouth	1	
Sheff, Wed.		1	
Southampton		1	
Tottenham	v QPR	1	
Watford	v Charlton	X	
PREMIER DIV			
Aberdeen	v Hearts	1	
Celtic	v Dundee	1	
<b>Dundee United</b>	v Dunfermline	1	
Falkirk	v Morton	1	
Hibs	v Motherwell	1	
St. Mirren	v Rangers	2	

Jim Bett could inspire Aberdeen to victory over League leaders Hearts.

(1 = home win; 2 = away win; X = draw).

#### ABERDEEN V. HEARTS

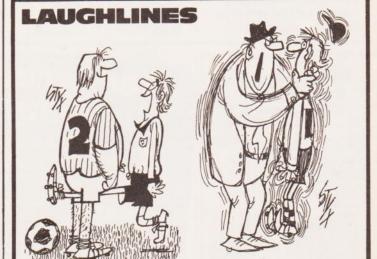
DESPITE losing the Skol Cup Final to Rangers, Aberdeen are as good defensively as any side in the Premier.

They are making steady progress in the League, but need to score more goals.

Having said that, striker Joe Miller is playing well enough to attract the attention of Liverpool and other top clubs from South of the border.

With Jim Bett also in fine form, I tip Aberdeen to just edge this game, say 2-1.

But Hearts are on a long unbeaten run and they won't be pushovers.



"That's not fair - open your legs."

"When that simple cross came in you should have grabbed it with both hands like this."

# Roy Dalley goes

# Norwich sucop for swedish pair

orwich boss Ken Brown is planning a £750,000 double swoop in Sweden. Gothenburg pair Peter Larsson and Lennart Nilsson are his targets, and Brown had the pair watched during last month's Championship Play-Off

matches against Malmo.
Central defender Larsson, 26, was selected by
Terry Venables for the Rest of the World side that
lost to the Football League XI at Wembley in August.

And he is particularly keen to play in the First Division after Gothenburg turned down offers from Italy and Spain.

Larsson has also been tracked by Sheffield Wednesday, Newcastle, Southampton and West Germany's Kaiserslautern, but will choose Norwich if he is joined by club-and-country team-mate Nilsson.

The speedy 28-year-old striker is seen by Brown as an ideal partner for Kevin Drinkell as the club attempt to haul themselves clear of a relegation haule.



#### **Moody Maradona**

Moody Diego Maradona is refusing to speak to the Italian Press after sections of the media dared to suggest he was fat. lazy and tired.

fat, lazy and tired.
With the Football League v Rest
of the World match still fresh in
the mind, I'd say that was a pretty
accurate description. Ah well,
there goes another contact.

#### Paulo looks to Futre

A tletico Madrid's
Portuguese star Paulo
Futre intends to invest some
of his £500,000-a-year salary
in building a leisure centre in
his home town of Montijo,
near Lisbon.

Futre plans to set up a luxury complex containing hotels, restaurants, discotheques, swimming pools and bars.



# Sepp is Der Kaiser II

Sepp Maier has been appointed assistant to Franz Beckenbauer for West Germany's national team.

Maier, who wore ridiculously long shorts during his playing days, was a team-mate of Beckenbauer's at Bayern Munich and they were both members of West Germany's 1974 World Cup winning side.

winning side.
Maier's official duty is to coach the national goalkeepers –
Stuttgart's Eike Immel and Bodo Illgner of Cologne – yet rumour
has it that Maier has been specifically selected to improve the
atmosphere within the squad.

#### Send for Stuart

Sweden's most wanted player is Scot Stuart McManus, the former Southampton striker who is being tracked by most clubs in the Swedish First Division.

McManus struck ten goals in 26 games for Second Division side Gefle last season.

Only 111 of FIFA's 157
member countries have
submitted entries for the 1990
World Cup in Italy. The draw
for the qualifying rounds will
be made in Zurich on
December 12.

Racing Paris have off-loaded their Uruguayan star Ruben Paz to Argentina's Racing Club Avelleneda for a nominal fee. Paz, Paris' highest paid player, was unable to win a regular place.







**ORTSMOUTH** manager Alan Ball believes his side will only survive in the top flight if they absorb the lessons they have been taught so far

"We're just upstarts," he says. "We have come from the junior school and now we are joining the big

Boys.

"Rule number one is to conform. We have to wear the blazer and tie for a couple of years.

"Only when we have done that can we start to indulge in a more individual style of football. It will take time

For the moment we must take no liberties and concentrate on establishing ourselves. We are learning all the time and, to do that, we have to be honest with

Any players with illusions of superstardom will have to think again in order to fall in line with Ball's sound strategy.

'My players must realise you

desire to see Pompey scale the heights of British football.

Certainly, a side led by former **England international Ball will** always have the necessary character to contend for the title.

"Pompey have never been short of that," Ball says. "We just missed out on promotion two seasons running, but while other teams who suffered the same frustration slumped to a mid-table position last term, our determination paid off.

"This year my side have shown immense character in coming to terms with the First Division. I told them right from the start there was no big bad wolf to be afraid of. But there is nothing like finding something out for yourself.

Sure, it was tough at the beginning. Players were quickly punished for making mistakes at the back. But they have learned a few crucial lessons."

So will the Pompey upstarts make the grade and pass the examinations needed to survive their first term in the big school?

Without a shadow of a doubt." answers Ball - and that's coming from the headmaster.



'We're just upstarts' **ALAN BALL** 

have to earn the respect enjoyed by the really great teams in the **First Division** 

"We are getting better and better and we'll continue to do so because the team is growing in confidence. But all my men must be prepared to wait as long as it takes to be respected along with

Alan Ball preaches caution in all matters. But sometimes his own volatile character can get the better of him.

#### **Shockwaves**

After the recent clash with QPR at Loftus Road, he sent shockwaves all the way down to Fratton Park by announcing he intended to leave Pompey because of a remark made by his chairman John Deacon.

"We got together the next day and talked it out," says Ball. "Now I am happy to say it is all history and buried forever."

Deacon displayed patience during that episode because he knows that Ball's fanatical dedication to his job can make him overexcitable at times.

But the two men have something in common - a burning

OMPEY's Welsh international midfielder Barry Horne might take exception to Alan Ball's claim that his men are just out of junior school - super-swat Barry has a Masters Degree in

Engineering from Liverpool University!

And the intellectual international from Flint in North Wales was fast becoming "Dr Barry Horne" until an offer from Wrexham wrecked his plan to be a professor and made him a professional footballer instead.

'Brains" Barry became a Batchelor of Science in 1983 and began a three-year PhD course which would have meant he'd be a student until he was 24.

But in April, 1984 Wrexham made their move and Horne swapped his PhD for a one-year Masters, taking the exams that same summer.

Now Barry is concentrating



#### Blake's so gloomy

A FTER spending the first three months of the season sitting gloomily on the sidelines, Noel Blake is looking forward to making up for lost time.

The burly stopper's mean defensive partnership with Billy Gilbert was an important factor in the club's promotion last season.

But Blake injured knee ligaments during the club's preseason tour of Sweden and found himself on the operating table while his team-mates were struggling to come to terms with Division One.

"It's been a nightmare," he says. "To miss out just when the club had returned to the First Division after years of trying is very frustrating.

"I still went in every day to do gymwork and keep in shape but apart from a couple of games I don't often watch the team. often.

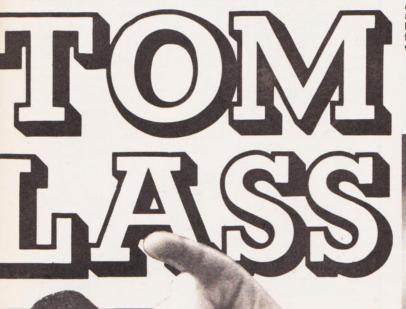
"I am a terrible spectator and tend to watch my former Pompey team-mate Mick Tait at Reading."

Blake must fight off the challenge of £70,000 buy Malcolm Shotton, signed from Oxford to plug the gap caused by Blake's absence, if he is to regain his place.

But Blake, who played in the top flight with Birmingham and Aston Villa says: "I believe in my ability. There are obviously better players in the First but I feel I am good enough to cope with them."

## POMPEYFAX

Portsmouth, Fratton Park, Frogmore Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO4 8RA. Tel: 0705-731204 Chairman: John Deacon Manager: Alan Ball Year formed: 1898 Honours: League Champions 1948-49, 1949-50; Division Three (South) Champions 1923-24; Division Three Champions 1961-62, 1982-83; FA Cup Winners 1939



on football formations instead of complex calculations and Pompey's genial genius jokes: "You could say I'm a late developer in football.

"But with all that swatting I just didn't have a chance to play it any other way.

"I did a week at some of the big clubs when I was 16 and they seemed very interested.

"But I looked around and saw how few of my footballing friends were making it in the game then realised I had more to lose academically than most people if I took the gamble."

Now 25-year-old Horne is feeling the thrill of top flight football and coming on in leaps and bounds as Pompey find their feet in the First Division. "We don't fear other sides now," he says. "We are more confident in ourselves and we're beginning to show the others what we can do."

Horne has already won praise for stifling the likes of Liverpool's John Barnes and West Ham's Liam Brady this season. And his bustling midfield skills have now been recognised by Welsh manager Mike England.

Barry came on as a late substitute against Denmark in Cardiff to win his first cap and if he continues to make the grade with Pompey he is destined for further international acclaim.

"Brains" is clearly enjoying his new education in football – and he's passing with honours.

# you find them Can y two cartoons. Answers on

page 34







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#### Pleat's problem

I hope the media are happy now they have forced David Pleat to resign as Spurs manager. Your comments please.

CHRISTINE EVANS, GLOUCESTER.

They didn't force him to resign, they exposed an unhappy situation which was surrounding Pleat and he left because he felt it was the right thing to do. Now he has to rebuild his life and I genuinely hope he gets back into the game if that's what he wants. It's sad when these things happen,

because after all nobody leads a monastic life and we've all got our

skeletons hidden away.

#### **Rioch wanted**

Bruce Rioch has been such a success as Middlesbrough manager that I'm sure it won't be long before he gets an offer to take over at a big club.

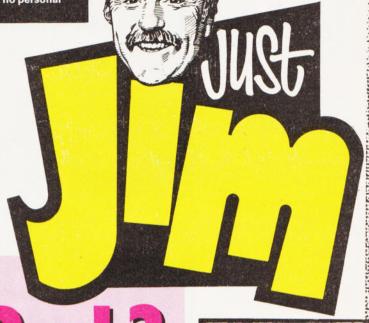
PADDY ASHLEY, BEECHWOOD, M'BORO.



If he can get Boro into the First Division, they have the potential to become as big as any other team in the game. If

teams like Norwich and Southampton can survive with the big boys, there is no reason why Middlesbrough shouldn't be able to do it. And Rioch could be just the guy to lead them there.

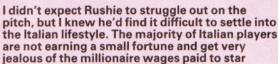
This week's Star Letter and £10 winner comes from A. Peterson of Pinner Road. Harrow in Middlesex.



# What's up, Rush?



What has gone wrong for lan Rush? We all said he'd be a smash hit at Juventus, but it seems he's just another of our exported, expensive flops.



foreigners. I had terrible problems when I was at Inter Milan because although I was scoring goals, I hated my team-mates and they hated me. They wouldn't even talk to me, and I'd get so mad that I'd end up slagging them all off. I kept asking myself what I was doing out there when I could be down at the local having a pint with the lads and I'm sure lan must be thinking the same thing. After a few months I'd had enough and came back home, and that is what Rush must do if he's really unhappy in Turin. It's stupid to waste good years of what is a very short career. Ian's problem is that Liverpool are doing so well without him that they probably wouldn't pay the money to get him back, and very few others could afford to buy him.

#### McMad!

I'm a West Ham fan living in Scotland and was furious that my TV company screened the Skol Cup Final instead of The Hammers against Manchester United as enjoyed by the rest of Britain. ROSS CAMPBELL, POWFOOT, ANNAM.



And I'm an Englishman who was furious that I couldn't watch the Rangers v Aberdeen game because ITV,

in all their wisdom, had decided to broadcast a very run of the mill First Division fixture. I'm sure the vast majority of soccer fans South of the Border would have preferred to see the Skol Cup Final. You should count yourself lucky.



## Harford's not worth it

Anyone who pays £1 million for Luton's Mick Harford must be crazy. He's certainly not in the Gary Lineker class.

TOM SHAUGHNESSY,

CASTLEREA, CO. ROSCOMMON.



I wouldn't pay a million for anyone, but if I were manager of a top club Mick Harford would be number

one on my wanted list. Every club needs a big, strong centre-forward and Harford (above) is just about the best around at the moment.

#### Saint's cover up

You recently claimed that Ian St. John wears a wig, but I don't believe it. Surely The Saint is smart enough to grow old gracefully.

DAVOOD ESLAMI, EARLSDON, COVENTRY.



I'm afraid not. The wig he wears in front of the cameras is kept under lock and key at the London Weekend studios. en he wears his 'informal' which is more grey. The third

Off screen he wears his 'informal' toupee, which is more grey. The third wig he doesn't like to talk about, but it's ginger and black and he puts it out at night with a saucer of milk.



## WALLY OF THE WEEK

With Liverpool, Spurs, Forest and QPR all out of the Littlewoods Cup, there is now no reason why Bury shouldn't go all the way to Wembley.

BRIAN REDGRAVE, REDRUTH, CORNWALL.



That all depends on whether they can get the tickets. There shouldn't be any problems so long as they don't mind standing behind the goal, but getting 11 seats together for the Littlewoods Cup Final could be a bit tricky.



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Hart's back on the beat

OT too many players can claim to have been transferred while in the process of recovering from a broken leg, but John Barnwell knew what he was doing when he paid Birmingham City a modest fee for Paul Hart.

The 34-year-old former Leeds, Forest and Sheffield Wednesday central defender suffered a compound fracture after just 32 minutes of his debut appearance for The Blues on New Year's Day.

But having satisfied himself that Hart was on the road to recovery, Barnwell stepped in to take him to Meadow Lane as player-coach in June and the manager says: "This is the most important signing I will make for Notts County."

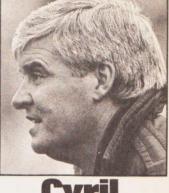
#### Influence

Hart finally made his County debut against Fulham at Craven Cottage in September ... and has immediately had a big influence on a defence which had been conceding goals at an alarming rate.

Hart says: "The opportunity to get involved in coaching was very attractive and although it's always been my intention to move in that direction, the chance came earlier than I expected.

"I want to continue playing as long as I can. In that sense, my ambitions stretch as far as any of the players at Meadow Lane and I'm very fortunate in having a great opportunity to learn the coaching and management side of the game at the same time.

"The idea is that I should take some of the weight off John Barnwell's shoulders but at times that's easier said than done because he's as keen as mustard."



#### Cyril smiles again

Torquay boss Cyril Knowles is learning how to smile again just months after threatening to quit football.

The former Spurs and England left-back admits he was deeply disillusioned after getting the sack from Darlington last season

sack from Darlington last season.
"I don't think I'll ever get over
the episode," says Cyril, whose
successes at Darlington included
promotion to Division Three and
a famous FA Cup victory over
rivals Middlesbrough.

"I was out looking for new players and the directors were gathering to decide to boot me

out.

"And all this after I had turned down two approaches from Second Division clubs through loyalty to Darlington.

"It took ages for the club's decision to sack me to sink in. I couldn't bring myself to go to a football match for a while afterwards."

Now Knowles is showing Darlington what they missed as he turns around the fortunes of the South Coast club who only just avoided relegation from the Football League last season.

They are in the hunt for promotion from the Fourth Division and scored a memorable 1-0 Littlewoods Cup victory over Knowles' old club Spurs.



### Mac's double



Davie McPherson was looking forward to playing his part in helping Rangers to the European Cup pinnacle this season.

The Scotland Under-21 utility player, however, is instead tucking away any thoughts of action in Europe while devoting his services to Hearts after his

realised Rangers were prepared to let me go," says McPherson.

it was in my best interest to further my career elsewhere.

"Hearts showed their potential by paying such a sum for me. I was sold on them immediately.

players and, of course, there were a few ex-Rangers collectures already at Tynecasti

"I won a League medal last season with Rangers and it's lovely to think I could win another this time with Hearts."

# Wilko's debt to



worry me too much not scoring in them because I was finding my feet at a new club and at that particular time the team were struggling a little bit.

"But it was different at the beginning of this season because it was my opportunity to start afresh and I must admit I was having a rough time.

"I had to keep battling away in the hope of getting a break

and happily that's just what happened.

'I got a goal against Chelsea in September and since then I've

been averaging one in two games, which is what every striker looks to achieve.

"I had never had a problem getting goals at Grimsby and Everton and now that I've settled down properly in Nottingham I hope I can keep the run going here.

#### 'Style'

"My confidence has shot up and I am coming to terms with the different style of a new team.

"Obviously I'm enjoying my football now and the way the team have been playing, we feel we are capable of keeping the momentum

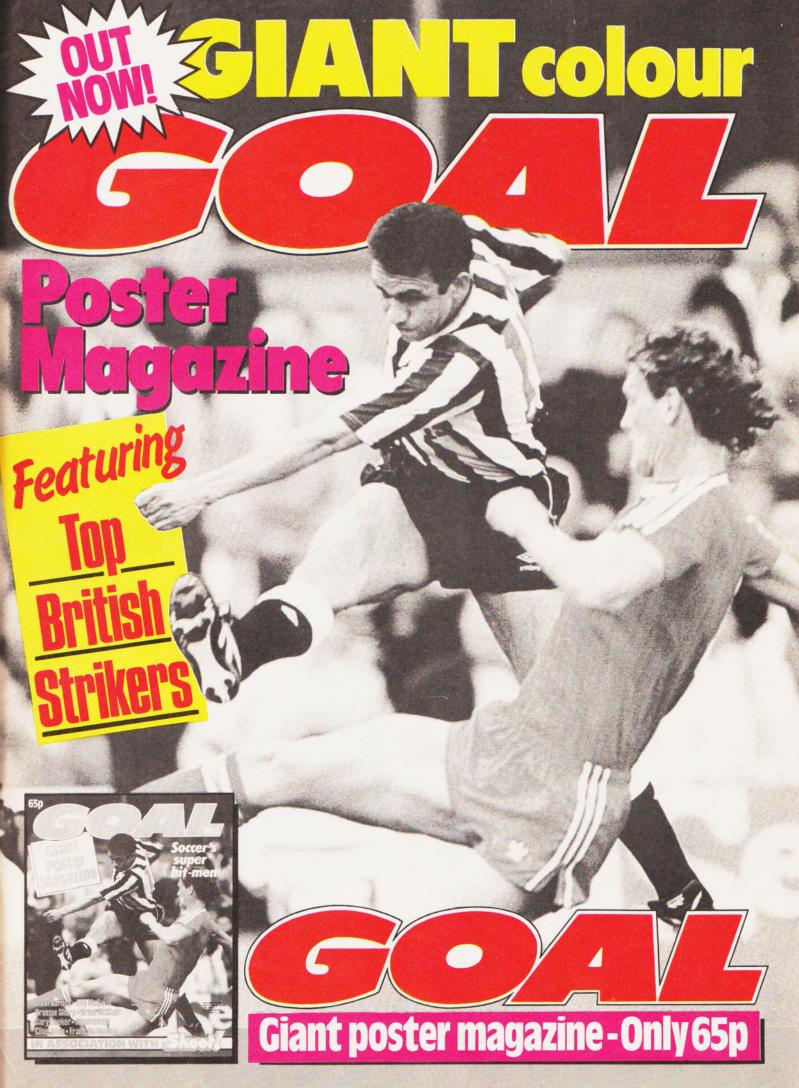
But Wilkinson, who found his path to a first team place at **Everton blocked by Graeme Sharp** and Adrian Heath, must have thought he was in danger of being edged out by Cloughie. He added: "A lot of people

expected the boss to leave me out because I was not scoring but he kept faith with me and I would like to think I am now paying him back. It's up to me to keep doing that and also to say thank you to the fans who did not get on my

'Supporters want to see new signings do well straight away but the Forest fans were understanding. Now I'd like to think I've got them on my side."

Jennings. 2. Ipswich. 3. 19. 4. Everton. 5. Birmingham. 6. Hampden Park. 8. Barcelona. 11. Arsenal. 12. 26 stone. 13. 6 seconds. 14. Ipswich and Arsenal. 15. They were both goalkeepers. 16. France. 17. False, it was 14 hours 14 minutes. 18. Brian Clough. 19. League Cup Final. 20. Real

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BACK ROW (left to right): Brian Wright, Tom McAdam, Chris McCart, Craig Paterson, Alex Kennedy, Steve King, John Philliben. MIDDLE ROW: John Gahagan, Ray Farningham, Paul Smith, Cameron Duncan, Alistair Maxwell, Kevin McKeown, Gordon Mair, Derek Murray, John Reilly. FRONT ROW: Tom McLean (manager), Gary Fraser, Jamie Fairlie, Tom Boyd, Fraser Wishart, Bobby Russell, Tom Forsyth (coach).

harlton new boy Andy Jones knows he'll need a miracle this season if he's to land another SHOOT/adidas Golden Shoe award.

But as he keeps a tight grip on the handsome trophy earned by his 29 Third Division goals for previous club Port Vale last term, he admits: "I'd love to win another one of these!"

And the Welsh international striker once discarded by Wrexham is quick to add: would be great to do it in the First Division - but first of all I want to

help make sure we stay there." But if the burly 24-year-old concedes the remainder of the current campaign will be spent plotting the Londoners' route to safety, his long-term ambitions extend well beyond mere survival.

He explains: "I haven't come to Charlton to fight relegation year after year. I know how ambitious the club are to establish themselves in the First Division

and I'm exactly the same. "This year it's all about gaining just as many points as we need to be safe. But next season we'll be looking to shock a few sides and finish in the top half of the table."

Charlton boss Lennie Lawrence took the £300,000 plunge for goal ace Jones after his side's disastrous start to the season and remains confident his investment will pay off.

Jones couldn't hide his dispappointment at not providing an instant dividend - he waited five games before grabbing his first goal in Division One at Oxford. But he promises: "I'll

# edges Andy Jones

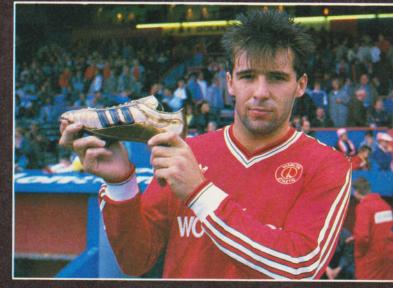
deliver the goods once I've found my feet in the First Division. I won't let Charlton down.

"My game is all about scoring goals but the boss has seen other aspects he can develop and I'll be an even better player with his help and encouragement.

Jones was watched by a host of top clubs before Charlton made their move and didn't have any qualms about joining a club who only escaped by the narrowest of margins in last season's play-offs.

I went on record as saying I'd love to join Everton if I had my pick," he recalls, "but once I knew of Chalton's interest I wasn't going to hang around and see if anyone else came in for me.

rona to turn me down'



The way I look at it is that they had their chance. I hope to show them what they're missing by doing the business for Charlton."

Port Vale had good reason to be grateful for Jones' prolific scoring rate last term. Bottom of the Third Division at Christmas, his goals helped them climb to twelfth place.

And Jones believes history can

repeat itself. "I'm sure everyone connected with Charlton would be quite happy if we finished twelfth in the First Division this season, he laughs.

"I really believe we can do it if we get the breaks. We're not like some teams where you find certain cliques of players and others who don't seem to fit in. We all believe in pulling together,

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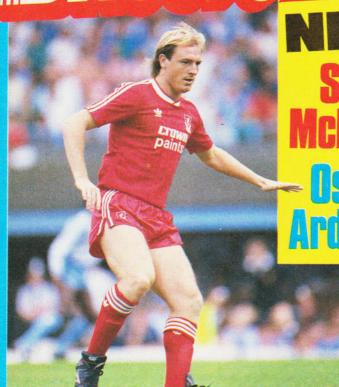
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olin West has swopped another Championship race for a relegation dogfight — with no regrets.

Sheffield Wednesday's newest striker is proud of his role in helping Rangers land the Scottish Premier Division Championship last season.

And that despite the fact that he suffered a serious leg injury after only half a dozen games following his £200,000 move to Ibrox from Watford.

"It was a real sickener," he says, "because I'd scored two goals in those appearances and I was shaping up well.

"Then fate struck and I was sidelined until November and it was almost spring before I got back into the action and then mostly as sub.

"Still, it was good to be part of Graeme Souness' set-up and I was looking forward to a new season when Wednesday manager

# who'd pin you back. It's been different this time. "Having our backs to the

# West's vow to Wednesday

Howard Wilkinson came in for

"Although I had absolutely no regrets about going to Scotland I felt that as Rangers had signed Mark Falco, a similar player to me, it might be a good chance to get back into the English First Division."

Now he's at Hillsborough the powerful Tynesider's priority is to help them climb out of the relegation zone. Five goals in his first ten games proves that he has regained his goal touch.

He's optimistic about The Owls clinging to their First Division perch. In fact he says he will be surprised if they don't finish well up the table.

But he admits: "We've a lot on our plate because of our poor start to the season, but now we've found our rhythm we'll be OK.

"In the past when I played for Watford, Wednesday were always sparkling, pressurising opponents wall has meant we haven't done ourselves justice. But it will come."

The amiable 23-year-old spearheads the attack with another big target man, Lee Chapman, who spent a brief period with West at Sunderland.

West recalls: "We only played in the same team once or twice at Roker but I admired Lee's style. We're both target men who can shift when necessary and we're both hungry for goals.

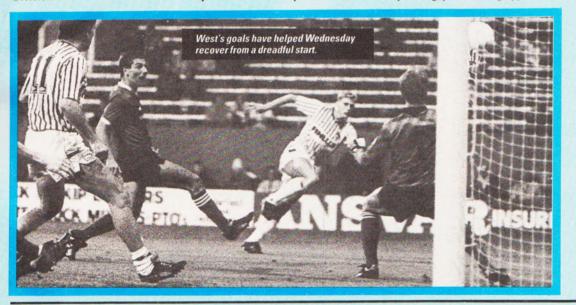
"I was a bit surprised when Howard Wilkinson wanted us to play in the same team but we soon struck up an understanding and I think we'll get quite a few goals.

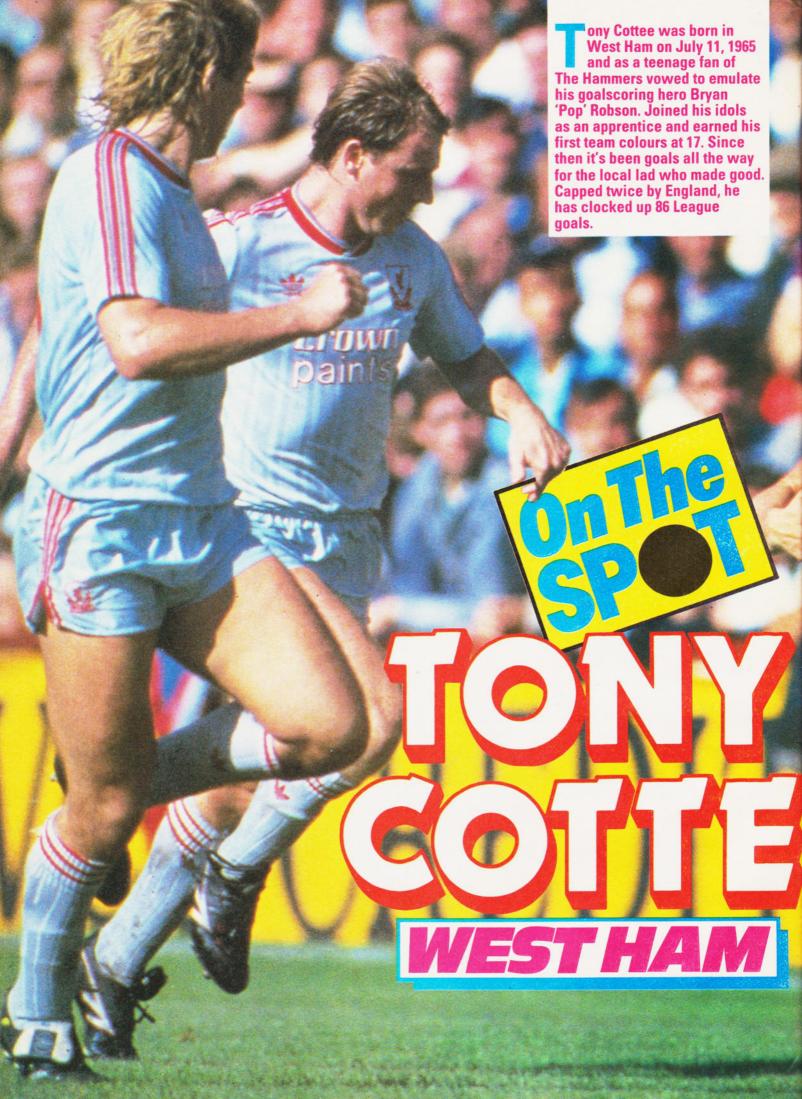
#### 'Surprised'

"Wednesday's style suits the pair of us. The boss has opted for two wingers, Mark Chamberlain and Tony Galvin, which means there is plenty of service for two big strikers working in tandem.

"It's in both our interests to hit it off with a good supply of goals otherwise one of us might find himself on the sidelines if a change of tactics is decided upon.

"There are a couple of highlypromising youngsters in David Hirst and Carl Bradshaw, who are only 19, breathing down our necks"





#### What is the worst game you have ever played in?

That doesn't really take much thinking about because it only happened a few weeks ago. The 5-2 Littlewoods Cup defeat by Barnsley (at home!) was the most humiliating experience of my career - especially as we were 2-0 up at one stage.

Have you been happy in your 'lone ranger' role since Frank McAvennie

#### left West Ham?

No, not really. It's put extra pressure on me to score goals. Put me alongside a big target man and I'll be much happier and more prolific.

#### What is your most embarrassing moment?

When I was sent-off while playing for the England Under-21s in West Germany this season. When the referee showed me the red card I didn't

know whether to cry, hit him or run. The walk back to the touchline was agony especially with Dave Sexton and Bobby Robson waiting for

#### Apart from being a prolific goalscorer, what other claim to fame do you have?

I once took on snooker star Steve Davis in front of the TV cameras - and won! It was during a 'Cockney Snooker Classic' and I was the guest me a 90-point start I did manage a couple of decent

#### What other sports did you excel at during your schooldays?

Without wishing to boast, I was pretty good at most things - a natural sportsman, you might say. I did enjoy athletics and was once the Essex junior 800 metre champion.

#### Who has had the biggest influence on your career

My father, Clive. He was an amateur footballer with Clacton and East Ham and is an FA coach so, as you can imagine, he has been right behind me.

#### What has been his best piece of advice?

When I was a teenager and all my friends were starting to discover girls, discos and booze he warned me of the dangers - and it's paid dividends. I much preferred playing football in the park to going to smokey discos.

#### What's the worst thing anyone has ever written about you?

I don't get too much criticism in the Press, but it does annoy me when I'm mis-quoted or the headline doesn't fit the story like the one that said I'd been involved in a punch-up with Billy Bonds. It was just a training ground scuffle which happens every day all over the country.

#### Would you ever consider leaving London for the North?

Not unless Manchester United, Everton or Liverpool were interested in me. I'm a London lad and if I was going to move to another English club I would prefer to stay in the capital, but for the moment I've settled my differences with West Ham and I'm happy to stay at Upton Park.

#### But you haven't ruled out the possibility of playing abroad one day?

No, it's something I've always wanted to do and hopefully in a few years' time I'll get the opportunity.

#### What does the immediate future hold for Tony Cottee?

Once my three-match international ban is out of the way I'd like to get back into the England reckoning and, on the domestic front, I'm looking to score my 100th League goal for West Ham before the end of the season.

#### West Ham had a traumatic start to the season, but do you think you have turned the corner?

I'm sure we have, and the way we came back in the game against Manchester United should help our confidence. We won't win the League, but relegation is also out of the question.

